

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE CHATTANOOGA NEWS CO.

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Entered at the Chattanooga Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

If you have any trouble getting The News, telephone the Circulation Department and have it promptly remedied.

Special Advertising Agents: John M. Brannan Co., Brunswick building, New York; Malles' building, Chicago; Chemical building, St. Louis.

Rates of Subscription: By carrier: One week, 12c; one month, 50c. By mail: Six Months, \$2.15; twelve months, \$4.00.

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Subscriber to International News Service and Newspaper Enterprise Association.

There are said to be differences even among German submarine commanders.

The spirit of Lafayette marches with the erect figure of Pershing along the Marne.

Completion and delivery of 500,000 tons of shipping during June would be "going some."

If you haven't the spare change to lay in next winter's coal, you better try to negotiate a loan.

George Creel and the colonel are making it hard for Tom Marshall to get in a word edgewise.

At midnight, in his guarded tent, the Hun was dreaming of indemnities. What a rude awakening!

"There is said to be" is the foundation upon which many editorial fulminations are being built.

If you can't think of any other way to get back at the U-boats, buy a few more war savings stamps.

Germans continue to withdraw more troops from the east. Bye and bye there will be no more to withdraw.

Reports which continue to come from Petrograd make it hard to blame the Germans for not capturing that town.

The raid on American coastwise shipping, while serious enough, was not quite so bad as first scare reports indicated.

New York is determined to keep up with the procession. "Central" in that town will no longer tell you the time of day.

The "folks at home" in Germany are coming to understand that Uncle Sam's entry into the war is not a laughing matter.

It has been found impracticable to obtain champagne to christen new ships in Oregon. But they seem to float all right anyhow.

Gutzon Borglum is maintaining the silence and keeping out of the headlines with a consistency and a self-denial that are admirable.

It is consoling to hear that the Greeks were in action the other day. Better still that they gained ground and took 1,712 prisoners.

Japan agrees to withdraw all troops from China at the end of the war. This will probably increase the Chin's interest in the return of peace.

A French military critic says the allied counter blow will come next October. That's a long time to wait, but here's hoping it's a hard one.

A Polish legion of 15,000 men, which was recruited in this country and South America, is now ready to join in the fighting with the allies at the front.

Congressman Cox, of Indiana, wants to tax automobiles. And that just at a time when paragraphers are straining to keep their patriotism on straight.

We may understand how much in earnest France is about the war from the fact that the sale of intoxicants has been "categorically" forbidden in the war zone.

No room in Europe for England and Germany.—Headlines. Really, it seems there is hardly room anywhere which the world may occupy with Germany in peace.

Apparently the telegraph companies and operators are of the opinion that something more than a visit from the U-boats is necessary to bring the war home to this country.

The scribe who declared that thus far no paragrapher has perpetrated anything about the rarity of a day in June just showed how few of the paragraphs he had been reading.

Johnny Evers, who has been termed the "brainiest man in baseball," has been unable to connect up with a job in the game this year. There are still a few openings in France, however.

One of the provisions of the recent Austro-German "understanding" apparently was that the grain fields of Hungary were to be made to feed not only Austria, but Germany as well. Hungary wasn't asked what it thought of the deal.

BOMBSHELLS IN COMMISSION

It is very unfortunate for the city that another bitter row has broken out in the city commission. No one could have foreseen that the elements which previous to the city election in 1915 were in such delightful harmony should now be in such antagonism. It breaks out again ever and anon.

A good deal happened at the meeting yesterday afternoon. It will be remembered that one day the week before The News printed a little, inconspicuous item giving the text of the report of special Auditor C. S. Peterson on the books of Treasurer J. Mitt Payne. By the way, it may be said in passing that no private citizen has contributed more to the cause of good government here than has Mr. Peterson by his exceedingly able, painstaking and fearless sifting of the accounts of public servants.

It looked as if the Peterson report on Payne's accounts was going to create little interest, until the exact facts were published by The News. Then it was seen that the carelessness, or "slovenliness," which had characterized that official's method of keeping his books had not been corrected after a previous investigation, when he had been checked up technically short, but had gone on, and there were evidences also that some payments that had been made him, amounting to \$400, had never been turned into the city, and that he had advanced money to those on the payroll which had not been repaid, and had carried checks for some of his friends, in some cases the afore-said checks having traveled to the bank so often that they had no room for further endorsements.

Mayor Littleton has had Payne's resignation for over a year, and yesterday he moved its acceptance, and Mr. Betterton stated that in justice to the taxpayers of Chattanooga it must be accepted, which was done.

No gold watch and chain was presented in this case.

We have never believed Mr. Payne dishonest and he has many qualities which have won and kept him friends, but a great city like Chattanooga cannot put up with such conduct of an officer.

The resignation of the city treasurer is the third of the financial family of the city, the first having been Auditor Charles O. Beaver, who resigned after it was found that he was several thousand dollars short; the second Herbert Bushnell, chairman of the sinking fund commission, the condition of whose accounts was also recently explained by Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Beaver was the gentleman who boasted that he did not want the support of The News. Maybe it was a case of sour grapes.

The report of the special auditor had developed another matter which caused the sharp controversy in the board above mentioned. Mr. Betterton made a formal charge in a carefully prepared statement that Mayor Littleton had paid \$87 out of the city's funds to Vance Williams for services as watchman in Jackson park, and claimed that the employment of Williams had never been authorized by Commissioner Herron, who has charge of the parks, but that Williams had been put on the city's payroll for one month for political services he had rendered in Franklin county for Mr. Littleton when the latter was a candidate for congress.

Although the mayor has been active in political matters, no such direct charge has been made against him before and his popularity has increased greatly.

According to Mr. Betterton's statement, Williams said he had difficulty getting his money, and finally J. L. Chivington, at that time the mayor's secretary, secured it for him. The voucher lay in the treasury for a long time, with no explanation as to what service had been performed, but on Mr. Peterson asking about it, it was endorsed "watchman at Jackson park, and on account of no funds in Herron's budget paid by the mayor."

The mayor explained the matter by saying that he had engaged Williams as a special watchman because he had heard that liquor was being sold in the park during the fair. He tells of many instances where funds were paid out of another fund when the budgets had been exhausted in the fund from which it should have been properly paid.

The mayor also states that the attack was made on him because he had in his own possession facts regarding the sale to the city of an old automobile belonging to Mr. Betterton, which had first been sold to Harry Reed and then a few days later sold by Reed to the city. Mr. Betterton did not deny this transaction, but said it was not illegal.

It must be said that it is exceedingly remarkable that all these charges and counter-charges are being made right

now, when the city would like to feel that it can turn its mind to other things and not be annoyed with harassing thoughts as to the kind of city government that is being given. However, the matters are so serious that they cannot be passed over without the fullest investigation.

MR. PEAY'S ADDRESS.

It is easy to see from a reading of his speech that Hon. Austin Peay has a fairly clear understanding of the financial situation which now afflicts Tennessee. But when it comes to discussing remedies, he is a trifle disappointing. He believes there should be retrenchment, as do we, and an increase of revenues, but he is not ready to go into details of the necessary measures. He wants all that left for him to determine after he is elected.

Mr. Peay says: "The governor must find the useless expense and must recommend its abolition. He must act with such judgment and courage that the general assembly will heed his recommendations." Now, that sounds fine, but why not hunt out some of those sinecures now? Why not manifest such an unerring judgment in pointing out needless expenses that candidates for the legislature will be constrained to pledge their co-operation in eliminating them? If the plan of procedure is to be kept secret until after the election, is there not danger that conflicting pledges may be made by legislative candidates as may appear most expedient in the various communities? Does his secret plan assure concert of action after election?

Further along Mr. Peay makes clear the reason for his reticence. "It is not difficult to find the sinecures which exist, nor to lay a finger on the money which is being misapplied. However, to particularize at this time would be to invite active and sinister opposition to my election, when I am content with that already in action." Frankly, we are not pleased with this declaration. Mr. Peay seems under the impression that the people should be more interested in his election than in his plans for conducting their affairs. Candidly, we do not think so. If the opposition which a little particularizing would arouse is sinister, it would probably be so recognized by the people and might conceivably aid in Mr. Peay's election.

On the contrary, a refusal to reveal one's plans through alleged fear of "sinister interests" might cause a feeling of doubt of one's sincerity to gain currency among the people. It might be inferred that with nothing definitely pledged it would be very convenient to lose interest in the cause of reform after the election, when nothing especial was at stake and when "sinister interests" would perhaps be less direct about remaining in the background. It is not our purpose, however, to impugn the correctness of Mr. Peay's purposes, but rather to call attention to such unfortunate interpretations as might be drawn from his attitude.

Another feature of the address which we do not believe will commend itself to popular approval is contained in the following words: "The tax rate should be fixed by legislative enactment, after a compilation of the assessed taxes and a fair estimate of other resources of the state, and after the general assembly has completed its appropriations, or thereafter he so fixed by executive proclamation, under legislative authority." This might prevent recurring deficits, as Mr. Peay suggests, but the people want more other remedy aside from levying more taxes. They will insist that the pattern be agreed upon before the cloth is cut. They would hardly be satisfied in any event to have one man fix their tax rate.

Mr. Peay should also make himself clear upon the liquor question. If his view that the issue is now settled contemplates opposition to ratification of the federal amendment, he will have occasion to revise his opinion. We do not believe there is a serious issue over the matter in the state, but one could easily be developed in the way here suggested. There are still other features to which we might object, but the speech is so full of good things that we shall not attempt a further enumeration now. We trust that Mr. Peay may soon clear up any misapprehension that might result from the passages mentioned.

The death of Charles W. Fairbanks is a matter of universal regret in this country. While probably not among the country's greatest statesmen, his life achievements were distinctly creditable to one who began on the lowest rung of the ladder. His exemplary life gave him a strong hold upon the affections of the people among whom his lines were cast. To them he never appeared in vain. There was nothing radical in his make-up, but he was content to be a typical American in public and private life. He was a close student of politics and the American government and enjoyed the respect and confidence of friends and foes alike.

However considerate a U-boat commander may be in permitting passengers to leave a ship and take to the lifeboats he has not complied with international law when he thus turns non-combatants adrift on the high seas. As occurred with the passengers of the ill-fated Carolina a storm may come up and the boats may be lost.

Is the politeness with which the U-boat pirates go about their business off our coasts part of a studied propaganda to convince Americans that much they have read is not true? It might seem so.

T. M. Gilmore, president of the "Model License League," feels quite sure the prohibition amendment won't be ratified. But Mr. Gilmore seems doomed to another of his numerous disappointments.

BUT FIRST CATCH THE RABBIT



(Copyright by New York Tribune)

London, May 14.—Because the war indemnity which Germany will demand from Great Britain and the United States "will cover the deficit," the German minister of finance is opposed to an income tax in Germany similar to the one in Great Britain. This announcement was made recently in the Frankfurter "Zeitung."

SHERIFF BUSH WINS

It is to be hoped that Sheriff Bush will now be left alone, and that he will be permitted during the remaining three months of his term to pay attention to the duties of his office as sheriff and not be compelled to spend most of his time in court defending himself against ouster proceedings. The second case against him has resulted exactly as did the first case. No sufficient ground has been found for the sheriff's removal. Chancellor Garvin finds that the sheriff in the matter of charging fees has followed the custom of other sheriffs in the state, and if there has been any violation of the law it was done unwittingly. The sheriff comes out of the second proceeding against him triumphantly vindicated. It has seemed that the ouster law was being put to a purpose in those cases which was not originally intended. The trial of the cases has raked up before the public a lot of malodorous incidents which might be well forgotten. This is a day and time when all our energies and thoughts ought to be devoted to patriotic purposes. It is not well to arouse bitter feelings over local matters, as it is very rarely that any good may be accomplished thereby.

Perhaps it was not a bad idea to postpone action on the proposition to build a temporary auditorium next to the municipal building. For the sum which it was contemplated to spend a very inadequate building at the best could have been built. The News has been one of the most persistent auditors of Chattanooga's financial affairs, and if it does not promptly fill this need, but we do not care to see any makeshift effort made along this line. The city should have an auditorium centrally located, built especially for the entertainment of great conventions, or meetings, and to seat not less than 5,000 people. At the coming session of the legislature a bond issue to provide for the building of the auditorium should be asked for.

We had been waiting to see if our republican brethren had a better method of winning the war. Now the secret is out—they propose to dumbfound the Hun by "restoring" the tariff.

A session of the Georgia legislature approaches, and, inasmuch as the federal prohibition amendment will be up for consideration, a lot of good advice about the beauties of states' rights will be wasted on the solons.

Speaking of the war debt which is now being incurred, Senator Borah recently paid his respects to the profiteer as follows: "This congress is contracting a debt which will draw upon the labor of this nation for 250 years, and it is up to us to see that the money which is coming from the people does not go to the scavengers of civilization."

The Charlotte Observer declares that "Mr. Kitchen is a fair man" and will have something further to say in explanation of the "jobby" incident. It says: "Mr. Kitchen is going to make a statement."

THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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"I do declare," remarked Mrs. Jarr, nervously, "when you come home to your dinner table of time you are the most fidgety thing!"

"Yes, and when I come home for dinner behind time, you are the most fidgety thing!" grumbled Mr. Jarr, in self-justification.

"I'm hungry, too, maw!" cried Master Willie Jarr, "and I can't wait. Kin I have some ice cream? Maybe it will melt in the icebox. Kin I, maw?"

"How many times have I told you not to say 'kin' Willie? Say 'can'!" replied his mother.

"If I say 'can,' kin I have some then?" asked the boy.

"And I want some ice cream, too, maw!" whimpered little Emma Jarr.

"There, you see!" exclaimed Mrs. Jarr, turning to her husband, "you've started the children!"

"Look at the flying machine—a war airplane!" remarked Mr. Jarr, excitedly as a humming sound was heard far out and up, and he ran to the window with the children.

"Don't mislead the children!" said Mrs. Jarr. "That's just a noisy automobile in the next street. Will-dee! You will fall out of the window!" And she seized Master Jarr and the little girl by their collars as they leaned far out the window with their father.

"There it goes, way up high! I see it!" cried the boy, excitedly. And, while his mother and father both held him, he thrust himself forward out of the window, obstructing his little sister's line of vision.

"I wanna see it! I wanna see it! Willie's right in front me!" protested the little Jarr girl.

"I seen the soldier alligator!" shouted the boy. "Say, pop! Say, maw! Kin I be an army alligator when I'm big?"

"Aviator," Willie, his mother corrected. "An alligator is a horrid animal!"

"Lazzy Slavinsky is going to invent a flying machine, he says," panted the boy, "his father is going to give him stamps for his thrift stamp book every time lazy lets something fall out of his flying machine and breaks glass sky-highs. Lazy Slavinsky says that his father will follow him around in a glass-plate full of glass and make millions and

millions putting in glass when lazy lets things fall through skylights."

"I give lazy Slavinsky a thrift stamp and he's going to let me ride in his flying machine when he builds it. And he ain't going to let you ride in it because you didn't give him a thrift stamp!" said the little girl, addressing her remarks to her brother.

"It's girls can't be alligators—I mean alligators!" cried the boy, "Izy Slavinsky is only fooling you to get his thrift stamp book filled."

The little girl began to whimper and protest at being deprived, in prospect, of a paid-for spin in the glazier's son's not-yet-invented glass-plate-out-airplane.

"Don't tease your little sister, Willie!" Mrs. Jarr commanded. "And don't you worry, Emma; girls may be aviators as well as boys. Girls are conductors on the cars and doing men's work to help the war, and, besides, Ruth Law, a very nice young girl, is an aviator, and was the first person to fly from Chicago to New York in an airplane, I believe."

And Miss Stinson flew in an aerial mail airplane just the other day for a long distance, so Willie mustn't tease you."

Being thus encouraged in her high-flying ambitions by her mother, little Miss Jarr was emboldened to stick out her tongue defiantly at her brother, the attention of both her parents being attracted toward the far-distant airplane, now a speck in the sky.

"She stuck her tongue out at me, maw!" she stuck her tongue out at me!" cried Master Jarr. "I won't let her stick her tongue out at me!"

"That was very rude for mamma's little girl," remarked Mrs. Jarr, reproachfully. "Little girls shouldn't stick out their tongues."

"I have to stick out my tongue for the doctor, maw. An' I have to stick out my tongue when I lick thrift stamps, don't I?" whimpered the little girl, who desired the maternal good will until the ice cream was served for dessert.

"It's all right for the doctor, but thrift stamps should be licked with a sponge, my dear," said Mrs. Jarr. "A little girl should not stick out her tongue except for the doctor. And, Willie, if you tease your little sister any more I shall punish you."

"And we won't let him ride in my airplane, will we, maw?" added the little girl.

"You see, Willie, this is getting to be a woman's world, and you'd better be getting prepared for it," advised his father. "I wouldn't be surprised if that was a lady alligator, as you'd say, that just flew by."

SHIPPING PROGRESS.

In one week's time, 63,485 tons of steel ships have been delivered, and eighteen more ships were launched.

This is done despite the fact that great yards like Hog Island and Port Newark terminal are not ready yet to put the ships into the water. When they are completed it is likely that we can launch ten ships a day. "In this great country of ours," says the Daily Marine Record, "we do not do anything on a small scale, provided we get the right men in the right places and the machine to run on schedule."

Several new types of ships are being built.

"Agawam," the ship that was fabricated, which is to say, "founded in smithy," represents one new departure in American marine and naval construction. The torpedo-boat destroyer "Tarbell," which has just been launched, represents a second, and the wireless content barge a third.

The "Tarbell" is a Cramp shipyard product. She is built after the latest designs adopted by the navy department with a view to combining speed and safety. She is guaranteed to do forty knots, with a normal displacement of 1,200 tons.

The cement barge is to be a 6 for carrying coal or oil for naval establishments in the east.

The first of a long series of cement-built craft being constructed for the government at the Brown company's yards at Verplanck Point, near Peekskill, has been launched. The barge is of 700 tons capacity. She was built, or rather "poured," during the past few months. She is several times heavier than a similar craft built of steel or wood, but shipped into the Hudson without a mishap. She floated at the exact depth estimated by the builders.

Ships and more ships. That is the slogan in America today, the more so since we realize even better the submarine menace.

There's just one serious labor dispute here, let's hope there will soon be none.

Eagles of the Sea Will Pursue Foo's U-Boats.

(Marine Record.)

Submarine chasers are to be turned out by the Ford shipbuilding yard at Baltimore at the rate of from one to three a day. They will be known as "eagles," and a huge eagle of them will pursue the German "frightfulness" pirates.

The assembling plant has been elaborated for the "eagles."

Raw material will go in at one end of the yard; at the other it will emerge as a completed fighting craft.

Each of the little vessels will be passed along from one group of workmen to another by powerful machinery. As it passes, each group will add something to the boat.

After the first rivet has been driven in the steel hull, the boat will be picked up by a powerful hydraulic lift and deposited down the ways, where skilled workmen will install motor equipment.

Three ways have been constructed, each to hold seven submarine chasers. It is generally understood that the plant will be able to put into the water one completed "eagle" a day.

"If these boats will hasten the end of the frightful carnage and bring a lasting peace, there will be no occasion to worry over the cost," said Henry Ford in discussing the project.

"This is your war and my war, and, although we did not make it, we must see it through to a successful conclusion."

Sixty days ago the land on which the plant is being erected was a desolate marsh, a vast acreage of mud, through which wandered aimlessly a sluggish river. Now it is a network of railroad tracks, with locomotives running between great buildings of steel, tile and glass.

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Nat. Then, naturally you should entrust the examination to the most reliable optician whose skill, experience and years of practice can determine whether you need glasses or a change of lenses and prescribe the correct glasses for your individual requirements.

Hear, Oscar Sangle's concert Thursday night. You get the value but the Red-Cross gets the money.

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